

## FREEDOM FOR MEN

William E. Smythe Writes  
Forcible Article.

## ON VALUE OF IRRIGATION

Treats of Speculation in All Its  
Phases.

For the Eagle:

One of the earliest converts to the national irrigation cause, among the prominent men of the east, was Edward Everett Hale, the famous Boston author, divine and philanthropist.

To one of the early missionaries of the movement, Dr. Hale explained that the first public work he ever engaged in was the promotion of emigration to Kansas to preserve the equilibrium of the free and the slave states. He added: "Now I am for this great movement of yours because I have come to the conclusion that freedom for white men in just as important as freedom for blacks."

By that striking remark, the great Bostonian showed that he appreciated the vast social and economic significance of the plan which looks to the reclamation of our neglected empire in the west and the making of homes for millions of people. Some of the reasons which are rising in connection with this undertaking do actually involve the problem of giving freedom, as opposed to servitude, to white men. Dr. Hale saw that this was so after a very brief consideration of the matter and it would be well indeed if all his countrymen could appreciate the fact as clearly.

To begin with, there is the question as to whether the future settlers of the great arid region shall be able to maintain their heritage—their share of the public domain—at the government price, or whether he will be compelled to pay tribute to the enterprising speculator who has forestalled him. Under existing laws it is possible for land to be acquired in large amounts by those who have no intention whatever of making a home upon it. Not only is it "possible," but the thing is being done wholesale at the present time. The entire assets of many a land and water scheme in the west, on which bonds are issued and sold in the east and abroad, is fertile soil recently carved out of the public domain with one of the two instruments which our national statutes provide—the Desert Land Law and the commutation clause of the Homestead Law.

It is not treating a white man exactly right to steal his property (for that is what it amounts to) and then sell it back to him at ten times what you paid for it. It is not. But that is only one aspect of the matter.

Much of the land which is being wrongfully taken by speculators will be held for the raising of cattle, when it is needed for the raising of cattle, and thus many people will remain homeless, who might otherwise be free and independent land proprietors. Then, too, much of this ill-gotten soil will go to form large private estates, which will be cultivated with servile labor or rented to tenants who must share their product with the owner. Current statistics show that tenant farmers have increased in the United States from 25 per cent to 35 per cent during the last ten years. Is it about time to start a tendency in the other direction and have the number of land-owning farmers increase instead of decrease? The surest way to do it is to save the lands we now own; then open them to settlement after they have been irrigated by national enterprise.

When these bad land laws are repealed and the statutes made such that only the genuine homesteader can take up land, and he upon the sole condition that he will build his home there and raise crops, the thing will be done chiefly by the influence of the popular states east of the Mississippi river. The reason is easy to understand.

The enterprising citizens of the far west know the value of this public property. They are consequently situated to file up land under the present laws. They are inclined to believe that the pioneers of a new country are fairly entitled to enrich themselves from the great fund of unused natural wealth which lies about them on every hand. Hence they are not, to put it mildly, wildly enthusiastic over the proposition to change the laws.

In the east and in the south the other side of the shield is presented to view. There live the people who need the land for homes for themselves and their children and who, in time, will learn to claim their share of it and to use it in good faith. The same impulse of self-interest which makes one section opposed or indifferent renders the other section favorable to the proposition to reserve the people's lands for those to whom they rightfully belong.

Another feature of the national irrigation cause which interested Dr. Hale was the plan of having the ownership of water go with the land. He readily saw that if it were otherwise "freedom for white men," in the full economic sense of the term, would be an empty dream. In a land where artificial moisture must be applied to raise crops the man who owns the water practically owns the land. In his first message to congress, President Roosevelt used these memorable words:

"Private ownership of water apart from land cannot prevail without causing enduring wrong."

Private speculation in the water supply of land of the arid region has proven very alluring in the past, though not very profitable to investors. The disappointment was due to the natural disinclination of the average American citizen to purchase land in a locality where some one else owned the "rain."

Save the public domain, store the floods, join the ownership of land and water, then invite the industrious, aspiring home-loving citizens of the United States to come into their own—this is the way to give "freedom to white men," which is truly as important as freedom for blacks.

## WILLIAM E. SMYTHE.

**HARMON WILSON'S FUNERAL.**

Sunday afternoon at Beloit the body of Harmon Wilson was buried beside that of his father in the Beloit cemetery. The casket containing it, accompanied by the relatives, and H. T. Chase, was sent to Beloit Saturday afternoon. A simple service conducted by Dean Kaye was held at the home, on Taylor street, at 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

The services at the home in Topeka were a fitting finale to the simple, unostentatious life he commemorated. It was such a funeral as Wilson would have asked for had the choice been his. Around

## Railroad Time Table

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Ry.	Leaves	Arrives
Kansas City & Chicago Ex.	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
K. C. Colorado & California Ex.	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Wichita Accommodation	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
K. C. and Chicago Express	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Wichita Accommodation	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Wichita Accommodation	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Wichita Accommodation	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Wichita Accommodation	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Wichita Accommodation	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.

Wichita and Western.	Arrive	Leave
No. 47, Pratt & Kingman Passenger, except Sunday	11:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
No. 47, Pratt & Kingman Passenger, except Sunday	11:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
No. 47, Pratt & Kingman Passenger, except Sunday	11:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
No. 47, Pratt & Kingman Passenger, except Sunday	11:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
No. 47, Pratt & Kingman Passenger, except Sunday	11:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.

Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway.	Leave Daily	Arrive Daily
No. 11, Texas Vested Ex.	6:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.
No. 11, Texas Vested Ex.	6:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.
No. 11, Texas Vested Ex.	6:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.
No. 11, Texas Vested Ex.	6:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.
No. 11, Texas Vested Ex.	6:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.

Missouri Pacific Railway.	Leave Daily	Arrive Daily
Kansas City and Topeka Ex.	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Kansas City and Topeka Ex.	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Kansas City and Topeka Ex.	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Kansas City and Topeka Ex.	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
Kansas City and Topeka Ex.	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.

The Cheateau Route.	Leave Daily	Arrive Daily
No. 2, East Bound	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
No. 2, East Bound	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
No. 2, East Bound	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
No. 2, East Bound	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
No. 2, East Bound	11:30 a.m.	1:30 p.m.

THE DENVER, ENID AND GULF R. R.	Time Table No. 7—In Effect August 1, 1903.
No. 1 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid 7:30 a.m.
No. 1 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid 7:30 a.m.
No. 1 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid 7:30 a.m.
No. 1 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid 7:30 a.m.
No. 1 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid 7:30 a.m.

No. 2 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid	Arrive Enid
No. 2 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 2 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 2 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 2 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.

No. 3 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid	Arrive Enid
No. 3 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 3 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 3 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 3 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.

No. 4 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid	Arrive Enid
No. 4 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 4 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 4 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 4 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.

No. 5 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid	Arrive Enid
No. 5 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 5 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 5 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 5 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.

No. 6 Passenger—Daily	Leave Enid	Arrive Enid
No. 6 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 6 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 6 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
No. 6 Passenger—Daily	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.

## List of Low Rate Excursions

VIA THE



Baltimore, Md., Grand Lodge Odd Fellows, \$35.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Sept. 17th, 18th and 19th, limited for return to Sept. 28th, except by depositing ticket and paying \$1.00 limit will be extended to include Oct. 3rd, 1903. All tickets to be deposited on arrival, and 25c fee to be charged.

Little Rock, Ark., Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, \$12.50 for the round trip, tickets on sale Oct. 2d, 3d, and 4th, limited for return Oct. 15th, except that by depositing ticket and paying 50c limit will be extended to include Nov. 25th, 1903.

San Francisco and Los Angeles, Cal., American Bankers' Association, \$50.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Oct. 8th to 15th inclusive, with final return limit of November 30th, 1903.

For \$35.00 extra tickets will be made to return via Portland, Ore., and direct lines to starting point.

Denver, Colo., Brotherhood of St. Andrew, \$17.50 for the round trip, tickets on sale Oct. 4th to 8th inclusive, limited for return to Oct. 15th, 1903.

Ogden, Utah, National Irrigation Congress and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, \$30.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Sept. 12th to 14th inclusive, limited for return to Oct. 15th, 1903.

Arkansas City, Kan., Old Soldiers' Reunion, \$25.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Sept. 7th to 11th inclusive, limited for return to Sept. 15th, 1903.

Chicago, Ill., International Live Stock Exposition, \$20.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Nov. 25th to 30th inclusive, limited for return to Dec. 7th, 1903.

Detroit, Mich., Missionary Societies, \$55.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Oct. 14th to 15th inclusive, limited for return to Oct. 25th, 1903.

Sioux Falls, S. D., National Butter Makers' Association, \$15.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Oct. 17th to 19th inclusive, limited for return to Oct. 25th, 1903.

Chicago, Ill., Chicago Centennial, \$15.00 for the round trip, tickets on sale Sept. 28th, 29th, and 30th, with final limit for return Oct. 5th, 1903.

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